

**Edwards,Michelle**

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**From:** Elliott,Earl  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 26, 2016 2:54 PM  
**To:** Bennett,Duke A; Azar, George; Auler,Amy; Morris,Don; DeBaun,Curtis; Nation,Todd; Crossen,Martha; Nasser,Karrum; Garrison,Neil  
**Cc:** Edwards,Michelle; Ellis,Leslie  
**Subject:** Re: re: 2017 Budget

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OCT 26 2016

CITY CLERK

Mayor, In the fourth paragraph of your email you write " without seeing the final budget". Does this mean at this moment, a mere 26.5 hours before our meeting to vote on the budget we have not seen the final budget? If that is the case, Council does not have much time to read and analyze the final budget. If this is true, I will have much more to say about that tomorrow night.

Council has been on the record since last spring about a total 2017 budget surplus of \$5,000,000 and what we have been provided as of right now are budgets with a net total deficit of \$1.1 million. A \$6,000,000 difference is very frustrating. So do we have your attention yet? Earl

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**From:** Bennett,Duke A  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 26, 2016 2:37 PM  
**To:** Azar, George; Auler,Amy; Morris,Don; DeBaun,Curtis; Nation,Todd; Crossen,Martha; Elliott,Earl; Nasser,Karrum; Garrison,Neil  
**Cc:** Edwards,Michelle; Ellis,Leslie  
**Subject:** re: 2017 Budget

All,

As you know the 2017 budget we submitted provided our first run at creating a fundable budget. Overall it included many individual department or activity budget decreases and only a few increases that were primarily driven by bargaining agreements or necessary activities.

Last week we submitted several budget reductions. These changes were primarily the result of reducing some previously identified line items that needed further review after we submitted the original budget. Those changes discussed in the last budget meeting have already been entered into Gateway (except the GF – Fire Department changes that we will do after the EMS N/R fund Ordinance is updated).

Over the past few days we have reviewed several additional line items and made some decisions about planned activities in 2017 that will provide additional budget cuts that coupled with last week's cuts that ultimately total \$2,829,450. Attached you will find those cuts. Those changes have already been entered into Gateway so that we can provide updated budget forms for tomorrow night.

It is disappointing to hear that "some" members of the council are publicly saying to vote against the budget and lose tax revenue without offering any cuts or seeing the final budget. No phone calls, no visits, and no emails with realistic suggestions or recommended cuts during this whole budget process. I have even heard a couple of council persons say it is not their problem to solve. That is not true as we all have a hand in the process. City Councils all across the state make budget cut recommendations and negotiate the outcomes.

I will have much more to say about this tomorrow night.

